



April 2019 newsletter

Meetings at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of every month at the Loves Park VFW

April seminars bring May muskies

More than 100 anglers hear Doug Wegner at All City Musky Night; now it's time to fish



Doug Wegner provided tips and tactics for anglers who venture to Green Bay for big muskies.

*By Dick Cholke
Flatlanders president*

The shows, banquets, and the Rockford All City Muskie Night are done – it is time to fish this weekend! Our first outing takes us back down to Lake Storey this Saturday. Charge those batteries for this trolling motor only lake. We have had some crazy trips down to this lake just north of Galesburg. We have hit both great fishing and some of the worst conditions on this body of water I have ever fished. Two years ago high winds, heavy rain, and a major cold front tested our stamina. This year should be better and it will be good to test out those new baits we got at the shows. In past years most of us stay

overnight at the Quality Inn in Galesburg and fish Sunday. Depending on the results of Saturday, the weather, and the discussion Saturday night we have the option to fish Lake McMaster on Sunday. You may want to call and make a reservation. In past years accommodations were hard to find due to a bowling tournament that same weekend. A few of us are also going to fish Friday – probably Lake McMaster. Give me a call if you plan on fishing Friday so we can meet up on the water, 815-222-1062. Remember, Lake McMaster has a 10 HP restriction, again not a low wake lake. Both lakes have good fish, 47-inchers have come out of both lakes on past outings. Our other outings will fill out our schedule.

Here is our 2019 schedule for the Flatlander's events:

April 27: Outing at Lake Storey
May 18: Outing at Lake Evergreen
May 21: Flatlanders General Meeting
June 18: Flatlanders General Meeting - prep for the Lake of the Woods outing
July 12 – 20: Outing at Lake of the Woods
Aug. 17-24: Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge
Sept. 17: Flatlanders General Meeting
Sept. 28, 29,30: Flatlanders Outing at the Bay of Green Bay – Note these dates have been changed because of the recently released Green Bay Packer schedule (The Packers finally posted their schedule)
Oct. 15: Flatlanders General Meeting
Oct. 18-20: Lake Alice
Nov.19: General Meeting – elections
Dec. 17: Flatlanders General Meeting – Christmas Party and Lure Swap

Going back to the 2018 Flatlanders Banquet and “The Rockford All City Muskie Night”, I would like to thank all the folks who made these events very successful and fun evenings. At the banquet it was great to see a room full of Flatlanders and spouses sharing the accomplishments of the past season. This year the banquet benefited from more folks getting involved and making many nice donations. The “Rockford All City Muskie Night” had approximately 110 attendees with many out of town guests. The ad in the Muskie Inc. magazine and invitations to 10 muskie clubs helped fill up the room. Both Rock Valley Anglers and the Flatlanders were excited about the event that featured the presentation by Doug Wegner and were happy that both clubs shared in a profitable night. This may be an annual event.

Our local high school bass fishing teams are active this spring with many tournaments and outings. If you have a high school angler remember Rock Valley Anglers will have their “High School Bass Night” 6:30 p.m.at the Hoffman House May 8. In addition, the Guilford High School Team is sending four anglers to the sixth annual Illinois High School Muskie State Tournament on May 18 at Prairie Lake near Springfield. Brian Hansas has made an appeal for any equipment that could be used for that event to support the team. In addition, Brian is looking for anglers that have fished Prairie Lake that could help get our local teams on the board with some pointers.

This is lining up to be a very good year for the Flatlanders. We have signed up record number



Above: Carson Wilary was fifth in the national Muskie Inc. Junior Division Fingerlings Award. He received the award from Steve Ruhmann during the banquet. Carson makes his own lures. Check them out: www.mcmuskies.com

Below: Dan Savitch is the perennial winner of the Skunk Award for not catching fish. Maybe Dan should buy some baits from Carson.

of anglers for both of the Lake of the Woods trips. This season plan to fish a few more of our outings and donate a few hours to support our chapter.

Get on the water and get on the board.

Illinois Creel Survey reminder

Our first couple of outings are in Illinois so please register the fish you catch. The Illini Muskies Alliance and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources jointly sponsor a muskie creel survey. The purpose of the survey is to gain valuable information regarding muskies caught that only you the angler can provide. Go to ifishillinois.org/science/muskie_survey.php to fill out a form.

The Big Fish Trophy used to be a one-piecer, Mark, I swear. Maybe it will be easier to display this way.




President
Dick Cholke
815-222-1062

Vice president
Lee Bach
815-494-7258

Treasurer
Jack Pertz
815-629-2562

Secretary
Wally Haas
815-262-2891

Release chairman
Steve Ruhmann
815-558-3666



Carlson Orthopedic Clinic

Mark E. Carlson, M.D.
Kelly Magoon, PA-C

1848 Daimler Road
Rockford, IL 61112

Phone: 815.398.9100
Fax: 815.986.6770
E-Mail: Carlsonorthoclinic@gmail.com



LEADERS & LURES Leaders:
All Sizes & Weights
www.leadandslures.com • 815-654-0902
 Gene Seuring • Rockford, Illinois
 E-mail: leadandslures@gmail.com



A Division of
GS Specialties Inc.

ACEBAITS



www.ACETANDEM.com
 612-210-6312

LOVESPARKMOTORSPORTS.COM

LOVES PARK
MOTORSPORTS

can-am
 SEADOO
 ski-doo
 ARCTIC CAT
SHARE OUR PASSION

DAVE JACK
 (815) 636-7636
 FAX: (815) 633-2746
 9902 N. SECOND ST. MACHESNEY PARK, IL 61115

EVENKEEL
 MARINE

CRESTLINER
Boats for Muskie Fishing